

## NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 285

Introduced by Smith, 48; Aguilar, 35; Baker, 44; Burling, 33;  
Combs, 32; Cudaback, 36; Cunningham, 40; Erdman, 47;  
Fischer, 43; Johnson, 37; Kremer, 34; Louden, 49;  
McDonald, 41; D. Pederson, 42; Stuhr, 24; Stuthman,  
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WHEREAS, Virginia Smith, formerly of Chappell, Nebraska, was born June 30, 1911, on a farm near Randolph, Iowa. Mrs. Smith graduated from high school in Shenandoah, Iowa, at the age of fifteen, and graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1936; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith married Mr. Haven Smith in 1931, and they owned and operated a wheat farm near Chappell; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith was a board member of the American Farm Bureau and Chairwoman of the International Farm Bureau Women. Mrs. Smith was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1974, and served Nebraska's third congressional district from 1975 to 1991; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Mrs. Smith was the only Nebraska woman ever elected to a full term in Congress. She was a member of the House Appropriations Committee and became the senior Republican woman in Congress. Mrs. Smith travelled the large third congressional district extensively, visiting each county in the district at least once each year; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith was a supporter of education,

farming, water development programs, animal research, and genetic research; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith had abundant energy and a gift for public speaking which she used well while serving her rural Nebraska district; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith retired from Congress in 1991 and moved to Sun City West, Arizona, where she led a drive to get the community its first post office; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Smith died Monday, January 23, 2006, at the age of 94. She was preceded in death by her husband, who died in 1997.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the State of Nebraska mourns the death of Virginia Smith and recognizes her many years of service to the people of this state.